

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 MC-02 ACDA-07 AID-05 IGA-02
OMB-01 TRSE-00 /061 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SSP:RMANTEL

APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER

NEA/ARP:JWTTWINAM

NEA/IRN:CNAAS

NEA/RA:SPALMER

OOD/ISA/NESA:LJANKA

DOD/DSAA:GEN. FISH

-----171056Z 108720 /21

R 162251Z JUN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

INFO USNTM

ARMISH MAAG

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 140466

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SA, IR

SUBJECT: SAUDI ARABIA/IRAN MILITARY SUPPLY STUDIES

1. DEPARTMENT HAS INITIATED SEPARATE INTER-AGENCY STUDIES
ON THE U.S. MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIPS WITH SAUDI
ARABIA AND IRAN. THE PURPOSE OF THESE STUDIES IS TO PRO-
VIDE A POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR CONSIDERING SALES REQUESTS
FROM THESE COUNTRIES IN LIGHT OF OUR EXTENSIVE ONGOING
SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP AND THE PRESIDENT'S ARMS TRANSFER
POLICY. THESE STUDIES ARE NOT DESIGNED TO RECOMMEND OUT-
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COMES ON PARTICULAR REQUESTS; THEY ARE INTENDED TO:

--PROVIDE THE DATA AND ANALYSIS NECESSARY TO ENABLE US TO
EVALUATE THOROUGHLY THE INCREMENTAL IMPACT OF NEW REQUESTS-
GIVE US A CLEARER PERCEPTION OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THESE
REQUESTS;

--IDENTIFY ANTICIPATED FUTURE REQUESTS THAT MAY GIVE US PROBLEMS FOR WHATEVER REASON, E.G. GENERAL POLICY, CONGRESS, ABSORPTIVE CAPABILITY;

--ASSESS WHETHER AND HOW THE U.S. MIGHT INFLUENCE THESE COUNTRIES' MILITARY PROGRAMS IN DIRECTIONS WE DEEM DESIRABLE.

2. THE STUDY IS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT (PRINCIPALLY PM AND NEA AND WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF OTHER RELEVANT BUREAUS). ACDA, OSD/ISA, DSAA, JCS, CIA, AND THE NSC STAFF WILL PARTICIPATE.

3. DOD AND JCS WILL BE CONTACTING USMTM AND ARMISH-MAAG DIRECTLY FOR DATA INPUTS AFTER DETERMINING THE AVAILABILITY OF DATA AND INFORMATION IN WASHINGTON. SOME OF THE DATA IS AVAILABLE AS THE RESULT OF ONGOING PROJECTS SUCH AS THE DOD UPDATE OF THE STATUS OF THE 1974 SAUDI SURVEY. WE EXPECT EMBASSIES TO WORK VERY CLOSELY WITH THEIR MILITARY COUNTERPARTS IN DEVELOPING THESE DATA.

4. AS SOON AS DRAFTS OF STUDIES ARE COMPLETED WE SHALL SEEK YOUR COMMENT. WE WILL NEED, IN PARTICULAR, YOUR ADVICE AND VIEWS ON SECTION III WHICH CANNOT BE ADDRESSED UNTIL DATA ARE COLLATED AND SECTIONS I AND II COMPLETED.

5. FOLLOWING ARE THE OUTLINE (IDENTICAL FOR BOTH STUDIES ALTHOUGH ADAPTATION WILL BE NECESSARY) AND THE DATA REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STUDIES. THE DEPARTMENT OR
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COMPONENT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INITIAL DRAFT ON EACH SECTION IS NOTED.

ASSUMPTIONS:

--SAUDI ARABIA/IRAN IS STRATEGICALLY AND POLITICALLY IMPORTANT TO THE UNITED STATES FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS.

--ARMS SALES TO SAUDI ARABIA/IRAN HAVE BEEN, AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP.

--THE PRESIDENT'S NEW CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFER POLICY APPLIES TO OUR ARMS TRANSFER RELATIONSHIP WITH SAUDI ARABIA/IRAN.

--CONGRESS WILL CONTINUE TO SCRUTINIZE THIS RELATIONSHIP CAREFULLY, PARTICULARLY AS TO APPLICATION OF THE GENERAL ARMS TRANSFER POLICY TO SAUDI ARABIA/IRAN, A MAJOR

RECIPIENT.

I. SAUDI/IRAN FORCE PLANNING AND OBJECTIVES (DOD/ISA,
WITH DIA, CIA, AND JCS)

A. WHAT MILITARY CAPABILITIES AND FORCE STRUCTURE DO THE
SAUDIS/IRANIANS WANT AND WHY?

1. THREAT PERCEPTION

2. POLITICAL ASSUMPTIONS (INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL)

3. OTHER DETERMINANTS E.G., NATION-BUILDING, PRESTIGE,
TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER.

4. FORCE STRUCTURE

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B. WHAT ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT WILL THEY WANT TO PURCHASE
OR CO-PRODUCE FROM THE U.S. TO ACHIEVE THESE CAPABILITIES
(ITEM, ESTIMATED QUANTITIES, TIME FRAME, ESTIMATED COST)?

1. CERTAIN OR HIGHLY PROBABLE REQUESTS

--(A) MAJOR SYSTEMS

--(B) MUNITIONS

--(C) SUPPORT

--(D) CONSTRUCTION

2. POSSIBLE REQUESTS

--(A) MAJOR SYSTEMS

--(B) MUNITIONS

--(C) SUPPORT

--(D) CONSTRUCTION

C. ANTICIPATED THIRD COUNTRY PURCHASES/REALISTIC
ALTERNATIVES

1. CURRENT PLANS

2. REALISTIC SUBSTITUTION ALTERNATIVES FOR PLANNED
PROCUREMENT FROM U.S.

II. U.S. ASSESSMENT OF SAUDI/IRANIAN OBJECTIVES AND PLANS
(STATE, WITH ACDA AND DOD)

A. HOW DO SAUDI/IRANIAN PERCEPTIONS OF THEIR INTERESTS
AND MILITARY REQUIREMENTS SQUARE WITH U.S. INTERESTS IN
THE REGION?

SAUDI: (1) PERSIAN GULF AND ARABIAN PENINSULA; (2) MIDDLE EAST.

IRAN: (1) SOVIET UNION; (2) PERSIAN GULF; (3) INDIAN OCEAN; (4) SOUTH ASIA.

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B. WHAT IS THE U.S. ASSESSMENT OF SAUDI/IRANIAN FORCE AND EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION OBJECTIVES TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

1. OUR PERCEPTION OF THE THREAT, OR EVALUATION OF OTHER REASONS WHY THEY WANT THE EQUIPMENT.
2. SAUDI/IRANIAN ABSORPTIVE CAPABILITY.
3. REQUIREMENT FOR ADDITIONAL U.S. OFFICIAL OR CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL AND DEGREE OF INVOLVEMENT OVER YEARS AHEAD.
4. POTENTIAL SAUDI INVOLVEMENT IN NEW MID-EAST WAR.

C. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ITEMS A AND B ABOVE, AND THE NEW ARMS SALES POLICY AND GUIDELINES, WHICH OF THE ANTICIPATED SAUDI/IRANIAN REQUESTS ARE LIKELY TO PRESENT PROBLEMS?

--(A) WHY? (E.G., ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, NEED FOR PRESENCE OF U.S. PERSONNEL, CO-PRODUCTION, EFFECT ON M.E. SETTLEMENT, CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATIONS).

D. WHAT LONG-TERM PROBLEMS(R SPECIFIC BENEFITS) MIGHT ARISE FROM OUR MILITARY RELATIONSHIP WITH SAUDI ARABIA/ IRAN, E.G. MAY BLAME U.S. IF THEY CAN'T HANDLE SOPHISTICATED U.S. EQUIPMENT TO THEIR SATISFACTION?

III. POSITIVE ACTIONS (STATE, WITH ACDA AND DOD)

A. WHAT CAN THE U.S. DO TO STEER THE SAUDIS/IRANIANS IN DIRECTIONS WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THEM GO?

--(1) WHAT ALTERNATIVES ARE AVAILABLE?

B. HOW RECEPTIVE ARE THE SAUDIS/IRANIANS LIKELY TO BE TO SECRET

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THOSE ALTERNATIVBS?

DATA REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH STUDY (DSAA WITH JCS)

I. STATUS OF MAJOR DEFENSE PROGRAMS

- A. ARMY
- B. NAVY
- C. AIR FORCE
- D. NATIONAL GUARD
- E. CONSTRUCTION
- F. OTHER

II. IN EACH CATEGORY THE FOLLOWING IS NEEDED:

PROGRAM

--EQUIPMENT ORDERED
--DELIVERY SCHEDULES
---POSSIBLE SLIPPAGE

--REQUIRED INFRASTRUCTURE
---PROGRESS RELATIVE TO DELIVERY SCHEDULE

--TRAINED MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS (TIME SERIES)
---PLANS TO MEET REQUIREMENT (NATIONALS, THIRD COUNTRY
NATIONALS, U.S. CONTRACTOR, U.S. OFFICIAL)

---DEGREE AND TYPE OF PROJECTED INVOLVEMENT OF U.S.
PERSONNEL OVER TIME

---STATUS OF TRAINING PROGRAMS

---INCENTIVES FOR CONTRACTORS TO WORK THEMSELVES OUT OF
A JOB

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---IS SELF-SUFFICIENCY A REALISTIC OBJECTIVE AND WHEN?

--IDENTIFY STRENGTHS, WEAKNESS AND PROBLEM AREAS WITH
PROGRAM

III. AGGREGATE ASSESSMENT OF EXISTING PROGRAMS

--HIGHLIGHT SYSTEMIC ISSUES AND PROBLEM AREAS, E.G. IN
LOGISTICS, MAINTENANCE AND TRAINING.

IV. ESTIMATED DOLLAR VALUE OF PURCHASES OF MAJOR ITEMS
BY TYPE FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 1978-82. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUPPLIES, MILITARY SALES, STUDIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE140466
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RMANTEL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770216-1026
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770648/aaaabqfl.tel
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Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2120303
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAUDI ARABIA/IRAN MILITARY SUPPLY STUDIES
TAGS: MASS, SA, IR
To: JIDDA TEHRAN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcr://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a3b57c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009